

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Norio TANAKA et al.

Group Art Unit: 2612

Application No.: 10/586,854

Filed: July 20, 2006

Docket No.: 128794

For: OPTICALLY CONTROLLED OPTICAL-PATH-SWITCHING-TYPE DATA
DISTRIBUTION APPARATUS AND DISTRIBUTION METHOD

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the reference(s) listed on the attached PTO-1449. Unless otherwise indicated herein, one copy of each reference is attached. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the reference(s) be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

- ☒ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (a) within three months of the U.S. filing date of this non-CPA application, OR (b) before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits in the present application. No certification or fee is required.
- ☒ 2. One or more reference cited herein was cited in a counterpart foreign application. An English language version of the relevant parts of the Japanese Office Action is attached for the Examiner's information. See References 2 - 4.
- ☒ 3. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of any U.S. patents and patent application publications are not attached.
- ☒ 4. An English language Abstract of one or more non-English language reference is attached hereto. See References 2 and 3.
- ☒ 5. A computer-generated English language translation of one or more Japanese Patent Publication cited herein has been obtained from the website of the Japanese Patent Office ([<http://www.jpo.go.jp>]), and is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See Reference 2.
- ☒ 6. Reference 1 corresponds to reference 2.

- ☒ 7. An English-language translation of the relevant parts of one or more Japanese-language references is attached, but has not been reviewed for accuracy. See References 3 and 4.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: January 30, 2007

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<p>DEPOSIT ACCOUNT USE AUTHORIZATION Please grant any extension necessary for entry; Charge any fee due to our Deposit Account No. 15-0461</p>

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 1/06)		US Dept. of Commerce PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY DOCKET NO. 128794		APPLICATION NO. 10/586,854	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (Use several sheets if necessary)				APPLICANT(S) Norio TANAKA et al.			
				FILING DATE July 20, 2006		GROUP 2612	
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Name			
	1	6,529,301 B1	03/04/2003	WANG			
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Document Number	Date	Country	With English Abstract	With English Translation	
	2	JP A 2001-119734	04/27/2001	JAPAN	X	X	
	3	JP A 2003-324456	11/14/2003	JAPAN	X	X	
OTHER DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)					
	4	Ueno, I., et al. "Development of Optically Controlled Optical Switch," <i>Light Alliance</i> , Vol. 14, No. 11, pp. 26 - 29, November 1, 2003.					
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		
Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

Date: January 30, 2007